

REMARKS

This is in full and timely response to the Final Office Action mailed on November 7, 2002, Reexamination in light of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 13-37 are pending in this application, with claims 13, 18, 22, 26, 30 and 34 being independent. No new matter has been added.

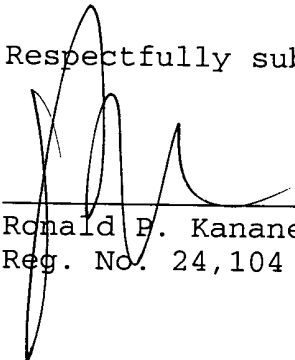
This amendment *prima facie* places the case in condition for allowance. Alternatively, it places this case in better condition for appeal. Accordingly, entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Claim 18 has been amended by correcting typographical errors within that claim.

For the foregoing reasons, all the claims now pending in the present application are allowable, and the present application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reexamination and reconsideration of the application in light of the amendments and remarks is courteously solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone Brian K. Dutton, Reg. No. 47,255, at 202-955-8753 or the undersigned attorney at the below-listed number.

Respectfully submitted,



Ronald P. Kananen
Reg. No. 24,104

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RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC
Lion Building
1233 20th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
Tel: (202) 955-3750
Fax: (202) 955-3751
Customer No. 23353